

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3106  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000  
PLIGHT OF PEASANTS  
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the plight of the peasants suffering in the non- irrigated and drought-prone areas in the country;
- (b) whether the Government propose to make any specific recommendations to improve the conditions of agriculture in those areas; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The Government is implementing National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas for the benefit of farmers in rainfed areas. The approach and strategy of the Project is based on twin concepts of integrated watershed management and sustainable farming systems development. This is achieved through treating both arable/non-arable lands and natural drainage lines in the rainfed areas for in-situ moisture conservation associated with diversified farming systems approach for improving production and productivity. Other programmes implemented by the Government of India, under which assistance is given to States, for the development of agriculture in non-irrigated areas include the National Pulses Development Project, Oilseeds Production Programme and the Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Coarse Cereals-based Cropping System Areas.